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EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - MARCH QUARTER, 1941.

The latest available statistics, from various sources, indicating the movement of Employment and Unemployment throughout Australia have been issued by the Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

EMPLOYMENT

Total Employment: The estimated total number of persons in employment in Australia (exclusive of members of defence forces who are not on civil payrolls) is as follows:-

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS IN EMPLOYMENT (AUSTRALIA).

Average for year 1938-39 .. 2,126,000

<u>Month of</u> -	<u>1940</u>	<u>1941</u>
January	2,175,000	2,243,000
February	2,183,000	2,256,000
March	2,193,000	2,269,000

(These are preliminary estimates subject to amendment as fuller data is obtained.)

Employment in Factories: The total number of persons employed in factories in Australia (excluding working proprietors) is estimated as follows.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES (AUSTRALIA).

Average for year 1938-39 .. 544,000
1939-40 .. 566,000

<u>Month of</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1941.</u>
February	573,000	632,000
March	581,000	655,000

The number of persons employed in Australian factories in March, 1941 was 51.5% greater than in the pre-depression year 1928-29, and 20.3% greater than in the pre-war year 1938-39.

A comparison of factory employment in March, 1941 (the latest month for which figures are available for all States) with March, 1940, shows the following estimated percentage changes for each State:- New South Wales, +11.1; Victoria, +9.9; Queensland, +6.7; South Australia, +27.6; Western Australia, +4.5; Tasmania, +5.4; Australia, +12.6.

Employment in Retail Stores: The index number for Australia for the year 1939-40 indicates a 30.9% increase in employment since July, 1933 (the first date for which figures are available), and an 0.7% increase since 1938-39.

A comparison of employment in retail stores in March, 1941 (the latest month for which figures are available for all States) with March, 1940, shows the following estimated percentage changes:- New South Wales, +0.8; Victoria, +2.9; Queensland, +1.8; South Australia, Nil; Western Australia, -5.2; Tasmania, -1.5; Australia, +1.3.

Detailed tables of various phases of employment as available for individual States and the Commonwealth are appended.

MONTHLY INDEX OF FACTORY EMPLOYMENT EXCLUDING WORKING PROPRIETORS (a).

(Base: Average for year 1928-29 = 100).

Period	New South Wales			Victoria			Queensland			South Australia			Western Australia			Tasmania			Australia					
	Unadjusted Index			Index divided by Index of Employee Population																				
Number of Employees, 1928-29.	M.129,539	F. 44,581	T.174,120	M. 98,068	F. 51,198	T.149,266	M.35,581	F. 7,855	T.43,436	M.29,014	F. 6,362	T.35,376	M.16,039	F. 3,760	T.19,799	M.7,703	F.2,281	T.9,984	M.315,944	F.116,037	T.431,981	...		
Index for -	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
1936-37	112	125	115	123	121	123	103	116	106	110	113	111	107	113	108	122	103	118	114.4	121.2	116.3	104.1	108.3	105.3
1937-38	121	134	124	131	126	130	112	123	114	120	121	121	110	116	111	130	108	125	122.9	128.0	124.3	110.7	113.0	111.3
1938-39	124	137	127	132	127	130	117	127	119	118	124	119	110	119	112	137	115	132	124.4	130.0	125.9	110.9	113.4	111.6
1939-40	127	142	131	139	134	137	120	132	122	(b)	(b)	123	107	123	110	145	126	140	(b)	(b)	131.0	(b)	(b)	(c)
1939 -																								
July	123	134	126	131	125	129	121	127	122			118	106	120	109	132	116	129			125.4			
August	124	137	127	131	128	130	124	130	125			119	107	117	108	133	117	128			126.3			
September	124	139	128	133	129	132	125	134	126			119	106	120	109	134	108	128			127.4			
October	127	142	131	137	132	135	126	137	128			120	107	124	110	139	113	133			130.5			
November	129	145	133	140	134	138	123	137	126			121	108	127	111	144	116	138			132.2			
December	131	144	134	141	132	138	119	133	121			124	109	128	112	146	117	140			132.5			
1940 -																								
January	129	139	132	140	132	137	110	125	113			124	107	122	110	151	120	144			130.7			
February	129	144	133	141	138	140	111	131	115			125	108	123	111	154	134	149			132.6			
March	130	149	135	142	140	142	115	138	119			127	109	124	112	152	136	148			134.5			
April	128	148	133	144	139	143	115	132	118			130	108	124	111	152	145	151			134.0			
May	124	145	129	143	137	141	121	133	123	(b)	(b)	127	108	124	111	149	147	149	(b)	(b)	132.3	(b)	(b)	(c)
June	129	145	133	142	135	139	126	130	126			125	106	123	110	147	150	147			133.4			
July (a)			135			141			130			123			109			146			134.8			
August			137			142			133			125			109			146			136.6			
September			139			147			134			130			111			146			139.6			
October			140			149			132			133			111			145			141.1			
November			142			152			131			137			113			145			142.9			
December	(b)	(b)	145	(b)	(b)	155	(b)	(b)	126			144	(b)	(b)	114	(b)	(b)	151			145.7			
1941 -																								
January			143			152			117			149			113			158			143.2			
February			145			155			122			155			116			156			146.3			
March			149			156			127			162			117			156			151.5			

(a) The annual and monthly indexes to June, 1940 are derived from complete totals. The monthly indexes from July, 1940 are derived from actual totals from practically all factories in New South Wales, from a complete record of munition factories in Victoria and South Australia plus a sample of other factories and from a sample representing approximately 45 per cent. of factory employees in Queensland, 49 per cent. in Western Australia and 55 per cent. in Tasmania. The Australian index is a weighted average. The index for Victoria is based on a small sample and is subject to amendment when fuller data are obtained. (b) Not yet available. (c) Not available pending revision.

MONTHLY INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT IN RETAIL STORES

(Base: July, 1933 = 100).

Month	New South Wales	Vic-toria	Queens-land	South Aust-ralia	Western Aust-ralia	Tas-mania	Australia	
							Unad-justed Index	Index divided by Index of Employee Population
Index for -								
1935-36 ...	118	130	109	114	110	112	119.4	116.2
1936-37 ..	124	137	111	115	115	119	124.7	120.1
1937-38 ..	130	141	112	115	116	118	128.3	122.2
1938-39 ..	132	142	114	114	116	133	130.0	122.5
1939-40 ..	132	144	117	112	115	139	130.9	(a)
1939 -								
February ..	134	141	113	112	113	131	129.8	122.2
March ..	129	139	113	111	113	132	127.2	119.6
April ..	129	139	112	111	113	133	127.4	119.7
May ..	131	141	114	111	113	134	128.7	120.8
June ..	130	142	118	113	113	138	129.5	121.4
July ..	133	138	116	110	119	138	129.4	(a)
August ..	129	137	114	109	114	134	126.8	"
September ..	129	137	114	112	111	133	126.6	"
October ..	130	141	114	109	111	135	128.1	"
November ..	133	147	117	111	113	139	131.6	"
December ..	148	165	131	127	125	154	147.8	"
1940 -								
January ..	132	144	117	111	118	144	130.9	"
February ..	135	139	114	110	115	138	130.0	"
March ..	131	140	114	110	116	137	128.6	"
April ..	129	144	116	111	115	137	129.5	"
May ..	130	145	116	111	114	139	130.4	"
June ..	130	149	116	111	114	138	131.1	"
July ..	131	142	116	110	116	138	129.6	"
August ..	130	140	114	111	112	137	128.3	"
September ..	129	142	113	111	113	137	128.4	"
October ..	130	143	113	111	110	138	128.9	"
November ..	134	148	117	117	113	139	133.0	"
December ..	152	174	131	127	122	152	151.3	"
1941 -								
January ..	131	141	116	116	116	141	130.0	"
February ..	135	145	116	111	112	136	131.6	"
March ..	132	144	116	110	110	135	130.3	"
Number of Establishments now furnishing returns	599	102	120	35	69	14	939	939

(a) Not available pending revision.

EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Working from the basis of the results of the Census of 30th June, 1933 from compilations made from returns of employers in remitting wages tax, and returns collected from Government Departments, the Government Statistician of New South Wales has prepared the following table which shows the approximate number of persons employed in New South Wales in the middle week of the months specified.

NEW SOUTH WALES - EMPLOYMENT.

The numbers shown below exclude rationed relief workers and men in the Army Navy and Air Forces.

Month	Total in Employment	Total in Private Employment	Total Employed in Factories(b)	Number Employed by Employers with ten or more Employees in -			
				Mines	Retail Trade	Wholesale Trade	Offices Commerce
1933 - June ..	594,273	477,577	139,744	15,504	38,544	17,638	20,344
1934 - " ..	639,646	518,645	162,700	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
1935 - " ..	694,815	567,110	182,200	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
1936 - " ..	741,934	613,631	199,200	18,995	47,653	22,792	25,544
1937 - " ..	800,405	652,947	216,900	18,555	49,877	24,808	24,855
1938 - " ..	839,511	688,881	229,000	20,980	51,921	25,212	26,299
1939 - " ..	831,555	678,577	228,900	20,873	51,667	25,212	27,277
1940 - " ..	856,446	700,155	240,800	21,128	51,622	25,871	28,711
1940 - March (c)	865,691	712,285	244,000	21,037	52,062	25,963	29,270
April (c)	852,131	698,374	239,500	20,703	51,406	25,927	29,030
May (c)	837,120	682,538	233,700	20,559	51,799	25,732	28,028
June ..	856,446	700,155	240,800	21,128	51,622	25,871	28,711
July ..	865,112	708,294	243,900	21,110	52,112	25,891	28,100
August ..	872,026	714,688	247,900	21,017	51,728	25,924	29,100
September ..	875,726	719,777	250,300	21,135	51,382	25,873	29,240
October ..	882,161	724,971	253,700	21,275	51,600	25,830	30,051
November ..	885,808	728,178	256,700	21,210	53,199	26,028	30,452
December ..	907,311	749,122	262,300	21,297	60,357	26,326	29,688
1941 - January ..	885,514	727,512	258,200	20,572	51,990	25,649	29,588
February ..	895,845	735,696	262,200	20,908	53,514	26,003	29,791
March ..	903,835	742,036	269,200	20,970	52,511	26,382	29,521

(a) Comparable figures not available. (b) Factory employment estimated since July, 1940 subject to revision. (c) Includes mine employees idle owing to an industrial dispute.

EMPLOYMENT IN QUEENSLAND.

The figures in the following table have been compiled by the Director of the Bureau of Industry of Queensland from census results, unemployed insurance contributions, workers' compensation records, and shop and factory returns. The table gives a comprehensive statement of all persons in work (other than relief work) in Queensland whether as employees, employers, or independent workers.

QUEENSLAND - EMPLOYMENT

Period	Numbers in Work			
	Employers and Workers on Own Account	Employees	Working for No Wages	Total
Average - 1928-29	86,300	204,400	9,100	299,800
1933-34 ..	94,700	194,700	9,600	299,000
1934-35 ..	96,800	214,500	9,700	321,000
1935-36 ..	98,900	223,500	9,900	332,300
1936-37 ..	100,900	234,500	10,100	345,500
1937-38 ..	103,000	245,800	10,300	359,100
1938-39 ..	105,100	257,700	10,500	373,300
1939-40 ..	106,800	264,500	10,600	381,900
Three months ended -				
April, ..	107,100	267,800	16,600	385,500
May, ..	107,100	265,800	10,600	383,500
June, ..	107,000	267,500	10,700	385,200
July ..	106,800	265,100	10,700	382,600
August ..	106,700	262,800	10,700	380,200
September, ..	106,700	262,200	10,700	379,600
October, " ..	106,800	263,000	10,700	380,500
November, " ..	106,900	263,700	10,800	381,400
December, " ..	107,100	262,900	10,800	380,800
January, 1941 ..	107,200	265,700	10,900	383,800
February, " ..	107,300	264,000	10,900	382,200
March, " ..	107,400	264,900	10,900	383,200

NOTES.

1. The table covers the whole of the working population. 2. The figures for three-monthly periods have been corrected for seasonal variation. 3. The figures have been revised for the period since September, 1939 to take account of enlistments. Enlisted men have been excluded from the estimates of employment, and adjustments have been made to allow for the effect on employment of home-defence training.

TASMANIA - EMPLOYMENT.

The following table compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment, gives the best measure available of the course of total employment in Tasmania. From July, 1940, total employment in private industry is estimated from monthly figures collected by the Deputy Statistician and not from wages tax returns.

Period	Private Industry			Public Authorities			Total Employment Public and Private		
	Males	Fe- males	Total	Males	Fe- males	Total	Males	Fe- males	Total
1937-38	34,001	10,685	44,686	10,581	1,825	12,406	44,582	12,510	57,092
1938-39	37,933	12,184	50,117	10,488	1,879	12,367	48,421	14,063	62,484
1939-40(a)	39,659	13,151	52,810	10,725	1,972	12,697	50,384	15,123	65,507
1939-40 -	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
October	38,210	11,872	50,082	10,665	1,948	12,613	48,875	13,820	62,695
November	38,966	12,334	51,300	10,672	1,963	12,635	49,638	14,297	63,935
December	40,082	13,341	53,423	10,960	1,955	12,915	51,042	15,296	66,338
January	41,951	13,904	55,855	10,828	1,865	12,693	52,779	15,769	68,548
February	41,676	13,230	54,906	11,051	1,993	13,044	52,727	15,223	67,950
March ..	42,088	14,918	57,006	11,097	1,999	13,096	53,185	16,917	70,102
April ..	40,752	14,541	55,333	11,060	2,039	13,099	51,852	16,580	68,432
May ..	41,048	14,359	55,407	11,035	2,019	13,054	52,083	16,379	68,461
June ..	39,012	13,883	52,895	10,531	2,024	12,555	49,543	15,907	65,450
1940-41 -									
July ...	37,987	13,956	51,943	10,187	2,069	12,256	48,174	16,025	64,199
August	38,402	13,989	52,300	9,881	2,078	11,959	48,283	15,976	64,259
September	39,204	14,624	53,828	9,878	2,116	11,994	49,082	16,740	65,822
October	39,807	13,996	53,803	9,977	2,099	12,076	49,784	16,095	65,879
November	40,064	13,975	54,039	9,678	2,100	11,778	49,742	16,075	65,817
December	40,446	14,974	55,420	10,147	2,124	12,271	50,593	17,098	67,691
January	42,512	15,985	58,497	9,896	2,041	11,937	52,408	18,026	70,434
February	41,354	14,118	55,472	9,889	2,159	12,048	51,243	16,277	67,520
March ..	42,936	16,264	59,200	9,978	2,144	12,122	52,914	18,408	71,322

(a) Subject to revision.

NOTES.

1. For 1938-39 and previous years the figures in the table may be regarded as a virtually complete record of total employment based on final collected figures. They are a combination of monthly figures received currently and annually, covering both private and public employment. They are deficient only to the inappreciable extent that some relief and other intermittent workers and domestic workers in private homes are not covered by the monthly returns. On the other hand, to the extent that they embrace the majority of workers subject to intermittent employment over the whole year, they reflect fully the seasonal and all other influences upon employment in Tasmania.

2. As from July, 1939, the number of employees of public authorities is completely recorded, but the number of employees in private industry is estimated on the basis of returns covering about 44 per cent. of private employment. Extensive returns of other private employment have been collected for each month of 1939-40, and figures from July, 1939, are subject to revision on the basis of these.